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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/542,182	07/13/2005	Kyoung-Min Shin	F-8709	7833

28107 7590 08/01/2006
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EXAMINER

NEAL, TIMOTHY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3731

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/542,182

Applicant(s)

SHIN ET AL.

Examiner

Timothy J. Neal

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/13/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/22/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Yim et al. (KR 20-0314211).

Yim et al. discloses a self-expandable stent, comprising: a coated primary unit having a hollow cylindrical body fabricated by knitting a shape-memory alloy wire to make a net structure having a plurality of diamond-shaped meshes (Fig. 3 Item 5), with both an enlarged diameter part formed at each end of the body (Fig. 3 at the both ends) and a coat layer formed on an external surface of the primary unit to externally cover a sidewall of the unit (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 Item 10); and an uncoated secondary unit surrounding the hollow cylindrical body of the coated primary unit (Fig. 3 Item 15), the secondary unit having a hollow cylindrical body fabricated by knitting a superelastic shape-memory alloy wire to make a net structure having a plurality of diamond-shaped meshes (Fig. 3 Item 11), wherein the stent is prevented from being undesirably removed from a narrow or blocked target portion of the gullet having a lesion.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson et al. (US 5,876,448) in view of Porter (US 5,064,435).

Thompson et al. discloses a coated primary unit having a hollow cylindrical body fabricated by knitting a shape-memory alloy wire to make a net structure having a plurality of diamond-shaped meshes (Fig 4), with both an elongated diameter part formed at each end of the body (Fig 4 Items 72 and 74) and a coat layer formed on an external surface of the prime unit to externally cover a sidewall of the unit (Abstract and Fig 11).

Thompson et al. does not disclose an uncoated secondary unit surrounding the hollow cylindrical body of the coated primary unit, the second unit having a hollow cylindrical body fabricated by knitting a super elastic shape-memory alloy wire to make a net structure having a plurality of diamond-shaped meshes.

Porter teaches an uncoated secondary unit surrounding the hollow cylindrical body of the coated primary unit (Fig 9 Items 82 and 84), the second unit having a hollow cylindrical body fabricated by knitting a super elastic shape-memory alloy wire to make a net structure having a plurality of diamond-shaped meshes (Fig 9 Items 82 and 84) for preserving the axial length of the stent. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a

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person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Thompson et al.'s coated stent to include Porter's secondary unit. Such a modification would preserve the axial length of the stent.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy J. Neal whose telephone number is (571) 272-0625. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.7

TJN


ANHTUAN T. NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
2/28/06